



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

EXTERNAL CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE OFFICE
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

February 28, 2018

In Reply Refer to:

FOIA Request No. EPA-HQ-2018-004049

Ms. Talia Buford
ProPublica
155 Avenue of the Americas
13th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10013

Talia.Buford@propublica.org

Via Email and FOIAOnline (<https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home>)

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request EPA-HQ-2018-004049

Dear Ms. Buford:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request noted above, received by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency) on February 2, 2018, which was routed to the Office of General Counsel's External Civil Rights Compliance Office (ECRCO) for processing. Your request was for the following:

An electronic copy, or a paper copy if an electronic copy is not available, containing the text of each Title VI complaint filed with the EPA's External Civil Rights Compliance Office, including each regional office dated between and including 01/01/2018 and 01/31/2018; Text of each resolution - including but not limited to determination letters, investigative reports, settlements, preliminary or formal findings, or referrals - issued by the ECRCO relaying the disposition of any Title VI complaint, dated between, and including 01/01/2018 and 01/31/2018. I would like to receive the information in the following format: electronic. If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the Act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees. As I am making this request as a journalist and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your

communicating with me by telephone, rather than by mail, if you have questions regarding this request.¹

A reasonable search likely to uncover all responsive documents was conducted on February 19th-27th. No records were located that are responsive to the request.

If you consider this response to be a denial of your request, you may appeal this response by email at hq.foia@epa.gov, or by mail to the National Freedom of Information Office, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (2822T), Washington, DC 20460. Only items mailed through the United States Postal Service may be delivered to 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

If you are submitting your appeal by hand delivery, courier service, or overnight delivery, you must address your correspondence to 1301 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 6416J, Washington, DC 20001. Your appeal must be in writing, and it must be received no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. The Agency will not consider appeals received after the 90-calendar-day limit. Appeals received after 5:00 pm EST will be considered received the next business day. The appeal letter should include the FOIA tracking number listed above. For quickest possible handling, the subject line of your email, the appeal letter, and its envelope, if applicable, should be marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Additionally, you may seek dispute resolution services from EPA's FOIA Public Liaison at hq.foia@epa.gov or (202) 566-1667, or from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways: by mail, Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, MD 20740-6001; email, ogis@nara.gov; telephone, (202) 741-5770 or (877) 684-6448; or fax, (202) 741-5769.

If you have questions regarding the use of FOIAOnline, please contact the EPA FOIA Public Liaison at hq.foia@epa.gov or (202) 566-1667. If you have overall questions or concerns about this request, please contact Jonathan Stein of my staff at (202) 564-2088, or via email at Stein.Jonathan@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "LSDorka", is written over a horizontal line.

Lilian S. Dorka
Director
External Civil Rights Compliance Office
Office of General Counsel

¹ FOIA EPA-HQ-2018-004049, Submission Details.